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RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 1278
RUFHCM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 0271
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RUMJHT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 0465
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIJING 22151

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, CH, TW, PARM, XP, XK, UR, XE
SUBJECT: VICE FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH ACYPL DELEGATION

1. CONFIDENTIAL--ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY. VICE FOREIGN MINISTER ZHU QIZHEN OPENED HIS ONE-AND-ONE-HALF HOUR NOVEMBER 22 MEETING WITH THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS WITH A GENERAL COMMENT THAT SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS HAVE DEVELOPED QUITE QUICKLY DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS AND ARE NOW "IN GOOD SHAPE." HE THEN OPENED THE FLOOR TO QUESTIONS AND COMMENTED ON ISSUES SUCH AS CHINA'S RELATIONS WITH THE SOUTH PACIFIC NATIONS, THE SOVIET UNION AND INDIA; CHINA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SEUL OLYMPIC GAMES; AND CHINA'S REACTION TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT SENATOR JESSE HELMS MIGHT LEAD THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

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END SUMMARY.

3. ON NOVEMBER 22, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER ZHU QIZHEN MET WITH THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS FOR ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS. AFTER HIS GENERAL COMMENT THAT SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS HAVE DEVELOPED QUITE QUICKLY DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS AND ARE NOW "IN GOOD SHAPE," HE OPENED THE FLOOR TO QUESTIONS. FOLLOWING IS A PRECIS OF THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

4. WHAT IS THE CHINESE REACTION TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT SENATOR JESSE HELMS MIGHT HEAD THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE?

--WE ARE AWARE OF SENATOR HELMS' ATTITUDE TOWARD SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND THE QUESTION OF TAIWAN. WE HOPE THAT IF HELMS IS ELECTED, HE WILL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE POST AND THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE AND THAT HE WILL THEREFORE TAKE REASONABLE POSITIONS. ANY ACTIONS OR STATEMENTS DETRIMENTAL TO OUR RELATIONS WILL NOT BE POPULAR. WE WILL WAIT TO SEE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SITUATION.

5. WILL CHINA PARTICIPATE IN THE 1988 SEOUL OLYMPIC GAMES?

--WE HAVE NOT DECIDED FINALLY WHETHER WE WILL PARTICIPATE IN THESE GAMES. WE HAVE TIME TO CONSIDER THIS QUESTION, WHICH BEARS ON SINO-SOUTH KOREAN RELATIONS. WE DO NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA AND DO NOT NOW PLAN TO ESTABLISH THEM.

6. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS?

--WE ARE READY TO FURTHER IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. THE CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE AT INDIRA GANDHI'S FUNERAL TOLD RAJIV GANDHI THAT CHINA HOPED THAT BILATERAL RELATIONS WOULD BE RESTORED TO THE 1950'S LEVEL. RAJIV REPLIED THAT INDIA ALSO WANTED TO SEE RELATIONS RESTORED, BUT TO A LEVEL EVEN BETTER THAN THAT OF THE 1950'S.

7. WILL CHINA EXPAND LANDING RIGHTS FOR FOREIGN AIRLINES?

--AS THE NUMBER OF TOURISTS TO CHINA INCREASES, THE NUMBER OF LANDING POINTS MADE AVAILABLE TO FOREIGN AIRLINES AND THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN CARRIERS FLYING HERE WILL ALSO BE INCREASED. BUT THE QUESTION WILL BE SETTLED BY THE AIRLINES AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY.

8. WHAT HARM WOULD THERE BE IN CHINA SIGNING THE

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NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY?

--CHINA IS CRITICAL OF THE TREATY BECAUSE IT IS DISCRIMINATORY, BUT CHINA DOES NOT SUPPORT PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND DOES NOT HELP OTHERS DEVELOP THEM. PREMIER ZHAO ZIYANG STATED CHINA'S POLICY ON THIS ISSUE EARLIER THIS YEAR WHEN HE VISITED THE UNITED STATES AND AGAIN WHEN HE MADE HIS REPORT TO THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS.

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9. HOW DOES YOUR USE OF THE TERM "HEGEMONY" RELATE TO
- THE UNITED STATES?

--THE U.S. AND CHINA HAVE POINTS OF AGREEMENT AND DIS-
AGREEMENT IN FOREIGN RELATIONS. WE BOTH OPPOSE THE
SOVIET OCCUPATION OF AFGHANISTAN AND THE VIETNAMESE
OCCUPATION OF KAMPUCHEA. HOWEVER, CHINA DOES NOT
AGREE WITH THE U.S. POLICIES IN THE MID-EAST, SOUTHERN
AFRICA AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

10. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF SINO-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS?

--RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND VIETNAM BEGAN TO
DETERIORATE WHEN CHINA OPPOSED THE VIETNAMESE IDEA
OF AN INDOCHINA CONFEDERATION IN THE MID-1970'S. THE
VIETNAMESE HAVE CREATED TROUBLE ON THE SRV-CHINA
BORDER TO DISTRACT WORLD ATTENTION FROM THEIR ACTIVITIES
IN KAMPUCHEA. CHINA HAS TAKEN A RESTRAINED APPROACH
ON THE BORDER ISSUE; ALL OF CHINA'S COUNTERATTACKS HAVE
BEEN WITHIN THE CHINESE BORDER. THE VIETNAMESE PERSIST
IN THEIR POLICIES BECAUSE THEY HAVE SOVIET SUPPORT;
THEY COULD NOT CONTINUE IN KAMPUCHEA WITHOUT IT.

11. IS THE USSR UNHAPPY WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF SINO-
- AMERICAN RELATIONS?

--THE USSR IS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE NORMALIZATION AND
DEVELOPMENT OF SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND WITH THE
VISIT OF PRESIDENT REAGAN TO CHINA. WE HAVE TOLD THE
SOVIET UNION THAT WE FOLLOW AN INDEPENDENT FOREIGN
POLICY. WE ARE WILLING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE
SOVIET UNION IF THEY REMOVE THE THREE OBSTACLES THAT
THREATEN CHINESE SECURITY (STATIONING OF TROOPS IN
MONGOLIA, SUPPORTING VIETNAMESE AGGRESSION IN KAMPUCHEA,
OCCUPYING AFGHANISTAN). THE SOVIETS SAY THEY DO NOT
WANT TO DO INJURY TO THIRD COUNTRIES WHEN DISCUSSING
SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS. WE REPLY THAT IN THEIR RE-
LATIONS WITH MONGOLIA, VIETNAM AND AFGHANISTAN THE
SOVIETS ARE ALREADY HURTING A THIRD COUNTRY, CHINA.

12. CAN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES COOPERATE IN
LIMITING SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN IRAN?

--CHINA BELIEVES THE BIG POWERS SHOULD NOT EXPLOIT THE
IRAN/IRAQ WAR FOR THEIR OWN INTERESTS. THE COUNTRIES
INVOLVED SHOULD WORK OUT THEIR PROBLEMS THEMSELVES.

13. DOES CHINA OPPOSE SOVIET AGGRESSION IN CENTRAL
- AMERICA?

--CHINA OPPOSES SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA.
OUR POLICY IS THAT CENTRAL AMERICAN QUESTIONS SHOULD BE
SOLVED BY PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTER-
FERENCE, ESPECIALLY NOT THE BIG POWERS. WE DO NOT
APPROVE OF THE U.S. DISPATCHING TROOPS TO INVAD
GRENADA, AND WE DO NOT AGREE WITH THE U.S. MINING OF THE
PORTS AND COASTAL SEA AREA OF NICARAGUA. THIS DOES NOT

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MEAN THAT CHINA DOES NOT HAVE A CRITICAL VIEW OF CUBAN
AND SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

14. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF CHINESE RELATIONS WITH THE
- SOUTH PACIFIC NATIONS AND WHAT IS SOVIET POLICY
- IN THE REGION?

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--CHINA HOPES TO FURTHER DEVELOP RELATIONS WITH NATIONS IN THE REGION. IT HAS FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH FIVE COUNTRIES IN ADDITION TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND. IT HAS NO FORMAL TIES WITH TONGA, NAURU, THE SOLOMONS OR FIJI, BECAUSE THEY HAVE RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN. THE SOVIET UNION PRACTICES HEGEMONY IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC AS IT DOES IN OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD. THE USSR TRIED TO HELP TONGA DEVELOP AN AIRPORT AND ALSO HAS SENT RESEARCH VESSELS TO THE REGION.

15. COMMENT. ZHU TOOK A FAIRLY UPBEAT APPROACH TO SINO-U.S. RELATIONS IN CONTRAST WITH NPC VICE CHAIRMAN HUANG HUA, WHO EMPHASIZED THE PROBLEMS IN THE RELATIONSHIP AND PARTICULARLY TAIWAN WHEN HE MET THE ACYPL GROUP (SEPTTEL). ZHU MENTIONED TAIWAN ONLY IN PASSING IN CONNECTION WITH OTHER ISSUES, SUCH AS SENATOR HELMS' POSSIBLE ASSUMPTION OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. ZHU ALSO REFRAINED FROM LABELING THE U.S. AS A HEGEMONIST POWER WHEN HE WAS ASKED ABOUT CHINA'S VIEWS ON THIS POINT. HOWEVER, HE WAS CAREFUL TO MAINTAIN THAT CHINA HAS AN INDEPENDENT STANCE IN FOREIGN POLICY AND GENERALLY EXPECTS OTHER COUNTRIES TO RESOLVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS. THUS, HE WAS CRITICAL OF U.S. POLICY IN CERTAIN AREAS AND DID NOT ENCOURAGE SINO-AMERICAN COOPERATION TO LIMIT SOVIET INFLUENCE IN IRAN. THE ACYPL DELEGATION HAS NOT CLEARED THIS MESSAGE. END COMMENT. HUMMEL

END OF MESSAGE

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